

During Master Sergeant Jenkins' last 3 years of service, he has served as the Administration Chief in the Marine Corps' Office of Legislative Affairs. That office supports Members of Congress, and their congressional committees, relating to the Marine Corps and the security of our Nation. In his position as Administrative Chief, Master Sergeant Jenkins has been vital in the efficient running of that very busy office.

Master Sergeant Jenkins has made a lasting contribution in the capability of today's Marine Corps' and the future shape of tomorrow's Corps. His superior performance of duties highlights the culmination of more than 23 years of honorable and dedicated Marine Corps service. By his exemplary professional competence, sound judgment, and total dedication to duty, Master Sergeant Jenkins has reflected great credit upon himself and has always upheld the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps. I wish him, his wife, Deborah, his sons, Deven and Jarrod all the best as he pursues other interests outside of the Marine Corps.

### NAZI PARAPHERNALIA IS AN ABHORRENT SIGHT ANYWHERE

#### HON. THELMA D. DRAKE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 19, 2005*

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share the following article written by a constituent, Rabbi Israel Zoberman.

The rally at the Yorktown Battlefield in Virginia, on June 25, 2005 sponsored by the Nationalist Socialist Movement (The American Nazi Party) is an opportune occasion for somber reflection and sincere soul-searching. Let us be clear: Nazi paraphernalia is bound to be an abhorrent sight anywhere, so much more so on a site resonating with sacred historical memories. A noxious display of terror-filled symbols protected paradoxically by our great democracy's freedoms which the Nazis seek to remove; freedoms and concomitant responsibilities won not without heroic struggle to overthrow tyranny and to be reaffirmed only a few days later at the July 4th celebration. Surely the rally's chosen venue and the close proximity of the two above dates is no coincidence, since the American Nazis unabashedly pretend to cloak themselves in the mantle of "the true American patriots."

How ironic as well to acknowledge that we are currently observing the 60th anniversary of the defeat of the very same forces that the American neo-Nazis and their European counterparts shamefully continue to uphold as the desired ideal for humanity. How is it that following the enormous sacrifices to uproot Nazi Germany with the critical participation of the United States, there are those growing up in our midst of enviable diversity and by-and-large, mutual respect and civility, who yet harbor the seeds of consuming diabolical hatred for all that we hold dear?

The often repeat call for constant vigilance is not a trite one. History has taught us that democratic societies are not impregnable from those who labor to destroy them from within. Unleashed poison of bigotry and prejudice when unchecked can find its way into the mainstream when deteriorating political and economic conditions are ripe for scapegoating any vulnerable minority. Once the unfathomable Holocaust occurred, is it

any wonder that we have witnessed genocides and ethnic cleansing in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, Iraq and now in the Sudan's Darfur region. The strikes of September 11, 2001 were also nourished by a similar spirit of disregarding the Other. Does it not behoove our societal institutions of home, school and religion to double our efforts in reaching the young's minds to appreciate what is at stake, promoting pluralism's open-mindedness and excising extremism's venom? Hitler and his murderous cohorts, masters of deception that they were, taught us nonetheless to seriously take ominous language and behavior.

Wider Holocaust and World War II education is a beneficial tool, along with the laudable contribution of the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C., the Virginia Holocaust Museum in Richmond, and similar ones elsewhere; particularly as time elapses from the actual tragic events with eye-witnesses dying while we confront revisionist history of Holocaust denial. We ought be immensely proud of the noble work, an exemplary model indeed, of our own Holocaust Commission of the Community Relations Council of the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater. As the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) still pursues tenaciously and admirably Nazis with blood on their hands who entered America or wish to do so, the American Jewish Committee reports that no more than 44 percent of Americans know about Auschwitz and only 30 percent are aware of what the "6 million" represents. Shockingly as well, even in Germany half of the under twenty-four year old population is ignorant of the Holocaust according to a recent poll. Thus the regrettable exposure of Nazi activity in deed and creed with today's internet utilization is also an opportunity to become cognizant of this corrosive phenomenon that we dare dismiss only at grave future risk. With the alarming rise worldwide of anti-Semitic incidents, and related anti-Israel bashing, the recently enacted German law to restrict neo-Nazi demonstrations next to sensitive historical sites is a good idea for us too.

The issue confronting us as Americans crosses boundaries of group, background, faith, gender and race. It ought to unite us anew as one yet diverse American nation in pursuit of our binding democratic agenda whose noble fulfillment is the ultimate response to those threatening it. The counter peace rally sponsored by The National Conference for Community and Justice which took place on June 21 at Virginia Wesleyan College was reassuring in the broad coalition it represented of concerned and involved citizens. The concluding moving dedication of the Peace Garden in memory of Dr. Catharine Cookson, founding director of Virginia Wesleyan's Center for the Study of Religious Freedom, was an apt act reflecting the great American ideal of bridge-building and mutual embrace. During this trying time of a global war against radical Islamic terror with the old Nazi specter refusing to totally go away despite our victory, we are reminded of the worst in human nature but also the best in us.

Rabbi Israel Zoberman is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Born in Kazakhstan in 1945 to Polish Holocaust survivors, he is past President of the Hampton Roads Board of Rabbis and Cantors.

### HONORING THE MEMORY OF ROSE F. PIERCE

#### HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 19, 2005*

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with utmost appreciation and sincerest admiration to honor the inspirational life of Mrs. Rose F. Pierce of Poughkeepsie, New York. She is survived by her adoring niece, Shirley and her husband, Richard Panessa of Poughkeepsie; two sisters, Lena Lewis of Syracuse and Gaspar Peschel of Sarasota, FL; and several other nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

After 88 years of a life complete with civic accomplishments, Mrs. Pierce's passing concludes a remarkable chapter of a life dedicated to volunteer service, while setting a commendable standard for all other leaders and volunteers to follow.

Mrs. Pierce is remembered by all in the Poughkeepsie and Hudson Valley community as a compassionate, considerate and unwavering in her commitment to others. She overcame adversity in life with a unique energy and spirit. Her distinguishing enthusiasm and vigor was ever apparent when she would dress as Betsy Ross and make presentations about our flag in local school districts.

Mrs. Pierce became known in the community for her commitment to those who made the greatest sacrifice by serving our country. She was a volunteer for many years at Castle Point VA Hospital in Dutchess County where she was recently received the United Way Points of Life award. She aided local veterans who were homebound, often driving them to the doctor or grocery shopping for them. Rose possessed an unwavering love for her country and humbly urged everyone to cherish and remember our veterans for the sacrifice they made to preserve our way of life.

Besides her commitment to veterans, Mrs. Pierce's service to her community came via volunteering, civic activities, and selfless acts of benevolence. She was a past President of the VFW Post 170 Ladies Auxiliary in Poughkeepsie and a life member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Italian Center. Some of her other civic activities included involvement in the Naval Fleet reserve, A.A.R.P., Dutchess Garden Club, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, St. Rita's Society of Mount Carmel Church, and the Lions Club.

### PERSON EXPLANATION

#### HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 19, 2005*

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 18, 2005, I was unable to be present for the following rollcall votes: H. Res. 328, H. Con. Res. 175, H. Res. 364.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 328.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H. Con. Res. 175.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 364.